

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN GAY ANN MASOLO**, on January 5, 2001 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 137B Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Gay Ann Masolo, Chairman (R)
Rep. Kathleen Galvin-Halcro, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Bob Lawson, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Joan Andersen (R)
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)
Rep. Gary Branae (D)
Rep. Nancy Fritz (D)
Rep. Verdell Jackson (R)
Rep. Hal Jacobson (D)
Rep. Larry Lehman (R)
Rep. Jeff Mangan (D)
Rep. Joe McKenney (R)
Rep. John Musgrove (D)
Rep. Alan Olson (R)
Rep. Ken Peterson (R)
Rep. Butch Waddill (R)
Rep. Allan Walters (R)
Rep. Merlin Wolery (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Connie Erickson, Legislative Branch
Nina Roatch, Committee Secretary

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted:
Executive Action:

THE CHAIR announced the next meeting is Monday, January 8, at 3:00pm to hear **HB32**.

At 3:30pm the Education Committee will meet in joint session with the Senate Education Committee for an overview of education funding.

Each member of the committee was asked to introduce himself and tell something about his person and tell why each person chose to be on the House Education Committee.

CHAIR MASOLO discussed the processes and procedures she would like followed during committee meetings: She asked that members of the committee conduct themselves properly. She emphasized that she will not allow disorderly conduct. Each member of the committee was asked to respect each member's views. This also includes respecting the public. The public comes to the committee meeting to be heard and is to be treated with courtesy.

THE CHAIR sees her job as not to dominate but to drive the meeting. When there are many witnesses to be heard, a time limit may have to be imposed to run the meeting in an orderly fashion. It is each member's job to clean up his area at the end of the meeting and to replace papers in the individual folders. There will be no sexual harassment tolerated. **THE CHAIR** asked that there be no active cellular phones in the room during the meeting. Promptness is a virtue and the meetings will start at 3:00pm, recognizing that members sometimes have other commitments that can cause tardiness. Democrats are to leave their proxy votes with **REPRESENTATIVE GALVIN-HALCRO** and the Republican members of the committee are to leave their proxy votes with **REPRESENTATIVE LAWSON**. Finally, **THE CHAIR** asked that members do their homework on the bills to be presented so that they are prepared to act on them during the meetings.

Snacks were discussed. **REPRESENTATIVE MANGAN** said that meetings sometimes became very long in the past and he enjoyed having the snacks available. **REPRESENTATIVE MCKENNEY** agreed. A vote was taken and three members voted against the idea. Those wishing to participate were asked to donate \$5.00 to begin the funds for the secretary to purchase snacks for the meetings.

CONNIE ERICKSON was introduced as the member of the committee from **Legislative Services Division**. She explained her role in attending the meetings. EXHIBIT 1 **EXHIBIT(edh03a01)** She emphasized that she can assist the members of the committee in their roles on other committees also. She has access to all other states' bills and all federal statutes. She can direct committee members to state agency personnel when necessary. The Legislative Services Division is non-partisan and has no vested

interest in any legislation. It is her job to draft bills and amendments and not to see that they pass or not pass. She will attend meetings to answer questions.

THE CHAIR asked if there were any questions on the meaning of pass, do not pass, and table when discussing the bills. There were no questions.

REPRESENTATIVE GALVIN-HALCRO said that if she does not receive a proxy from a member unable to attend the executive meeting, she will vote as she has voted.

REPRESENTATIVE LEHMAN asked if members were aware of the Montana School Directory which is published yearly. To his knowledge the 2000-2001 edition is not available at this time. It is on line. **THE CHAIR** recommended that each member be acquainted with the material in this publication. **REPRESENTATIVE LAWSON** asked if the School Law book is available for each member. At this time, it is not available. **THE CHAIR** reminded members that there will be a meeting on Monday in Room 137B to hear **REPRESENTATIVE LAWSON's** HB32 at 3:00pm. The Joint School Finance meeting will be at 3:30pm in the same room.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:00 P.M.

REP. GAY ANN MASOLO, Chairman

NINA ROATCH, Secretary

GM/NR

EXHIBIT (edh03aad)